

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: QWEST COMMUNICATIONS INTERNATIONAL, INC., AND CENTURYTEL, INC.	DOCKET NO. SPU-2010-0006
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ORDER TERMINATING INTEGRATION REPORTING AND CLOSING DOCKET

(Issued August 30, 2016)

On August 1, 2016, CenturyLink, Inc. (CenturyLink), filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a “Motion to Terminate Integration Reporting and Close Docket.” CenturyLink has been filing quarterly integration reports since the Board approved the proposed reorganization between Qwest Communications International, Inc., and CenturyTel, Inc., in 2010.¹

In approving the proposed reorganization, the Board established several post-merger reporting requirements which were part of a settlement agreement between CenturyLink and the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA), a division of the Iowa Department of Justice. CenturyLink was required to submit quarterly integration reports (for which no end date was specified), quarterly service quality reports for three years after the close of the merger, and annual broadband deployment reports for five years after the close of the merger. The integration reports describe the

¹ See *Qwest Communications International, Inc., and CenturyTel, Inc.*, “Order Approving Settlement Agreements, Granting Motions to Withdraw, and Allowing Proposed Reorganization,” Docket No. SPU-2010-0006, issued November 19, 2010.

scheduling of systems conversions which may affect Iowa customers, including conversions of business office and trouble reporting call centers, maintenance systems that monitor central office and transport equipment, engineering systems, outside plant record systems, billing systems, and wholesale Operational Support Systems (OSS). The most recent integration report was filed with the Board on June 28, 2016.

The requirement to file quarterly service quality reports expired in 2013. In 2014 the Board terminated the annual broadband deployment reporting requirement.²

In approving the proposed reorganization, the Board also approved a settlement between the merging companies and a group of competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs). Pursuant to that settlement, CenturyLink agreed to continue Qwest's wholesale OSS for at least 24 months; to honor Qwest's obligations under existing interconnection agreements for up to 36 months, depending on the agreement; to continue Qwest's Performance Assurance Plan for 36 months after closing of the reorganization; and to maintain Qwest's Change Management Process for 36 months after the closing date.

On August 1, 2016, CenturyLink filed a motion to terminate integration reporting and to close this docket. CenturyLink states it has been over five years

² See *Qwest Communications International, Inc., and CenturyTel, Inc.*, "Order Regarding Annual Broadband Deployment Reporting Requirement and Meeting Schedule," Docket No. SPU-2010-0006, issued April 21, 2014.

since the reorganization closed. CenturyLink states it has complied with all of the conditions the Board set when approving the reorganization.

On August 2, 2016, OCA filed a response to CenturyLink's motion. OCA does not oppose the motion to terminate integration reporting and close this docket.

The Board will grant CenturyLink's motion to terminate integration reporting. In the integration reports, CenturyLink has included information about changes to its wholesale OSS process. Board staff participates in monthly calls hosted by CenturyLink that address ongoing activity relating to the company's Change Management Process. The Board anticipates that through these calls it will continue to informally monitor any changes to the wholesale OSS process even after integration reporting ceases.

Considering the time that has passed since the reorganization was approved and closed, the conclusion of post-merger reporting requirements, and OCA's response to CenturyLink's motion, the Board concludes it is appropriate to close this docket.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The "Motion to Terminate Integration Reporting and Close Docket" filed in this docket on August 1, 2016, by CenturyLink, Inc., is granted as discussed in this order.

2. Docket No. SPU-2010-0006, *Qwest Communications International, Inc., and CenturyTel, Inc.*, is closed.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Geri D. Huser

/s/ Elizabeth S. Jacobs

ATTEST:

/s/ Trisha M. Quijano
Executive Secretary, Designee

/s/ Nick Wagner

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 30th day of August 2016.